

## Notes

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DISTRIBUTIONAL RECORDS OF THE GREAT PLAINS RAT SNAKE IN DINOSAUR NATIONAL MONUMENT — The great plains rat snake (corn snake), *Elaphe guttata emoryi*, was first recorded in Dinosaur National Monument (Uintah County, Utah) in 1982 (Bury, 1983, *Herpetol. Rev.* 14:123). The Bury record is the only published account of the species in the vicinity of Dinosaur National Monument. This isolated sighting represents the northernmost record west of the continental divide. It extends the potential range of the species by approximately 100 km from the nearest sighting in Utah and 160 km from the nearest sighting in Colorado (ibid.). Conversations with monument biologists did not indicate any other known sightings in the monument area.

On 7 June 1985 we captured a specimen 82 cm in length at the confluence of Jones and Ely creeks in Jones Canyon of the monument. On 5 June 1987 we captured another specimen, 64 cm in length, along Jones Creek 0.8 km north of Jones Hole Campground (both sightings in Uintah County Utah). The 1985 sighting appears to have been in nearly the same locale as the Bury record. The 1987 sighting is 2.4 km south of the 1985 sighting and the Bury record. Because we were in a national monument, both snakes were retained only long enough to identify, photograph (Denver Wildlife Research Center library photograph numbers 85001 and 87001), and release.

These additional sightings confirm that the Bury record is not an incidental sighting and a population of great plains rat snake exists in Jones Canyon of Dinosaur National Monument. — *Richard M. Engeman, Denver Wildlife Research Center, P.O. Box 25266, Denver, CO 80225-0266, and Angelika Engeman, DER Travel, 425 S. Cherry, Denver CO 80222.*

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